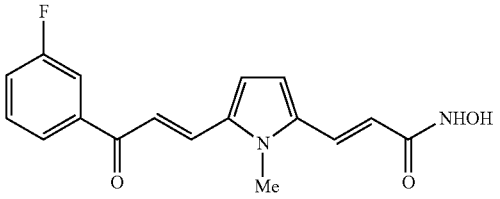
ments, R^1 is pyridinyl, such as pyridin-2-yl, pyridin-3-yl, or pyridin-4-yl. In some other such embodiments, R^1 is thiophenyl, such as thiophen-3-yl or thiophen-2-yl.

[0023] In certain embodiments, R^2 is methyl.

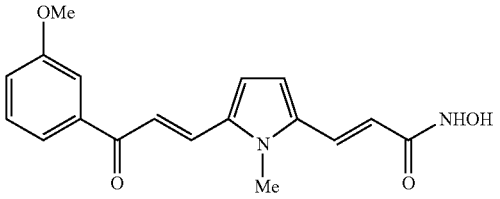
[0024] In certain embodiments, the present disclosure provides a pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as disclosed herein and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

[0025] Exemplary compounds of the present disclosure are shown below.

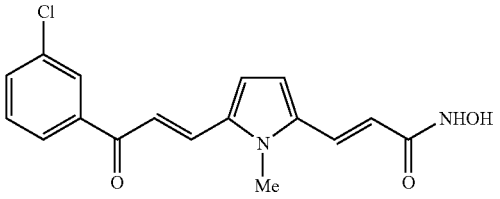
MJK001



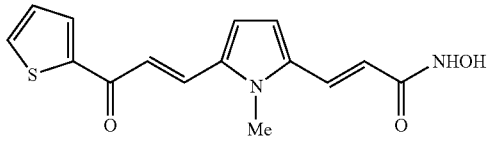
MJK002



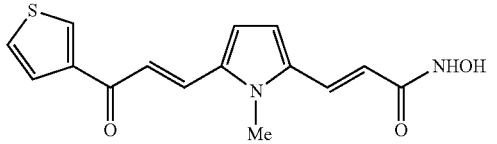
MJK003



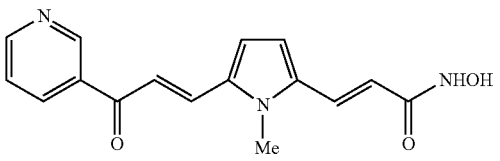
MJK004



MJK005

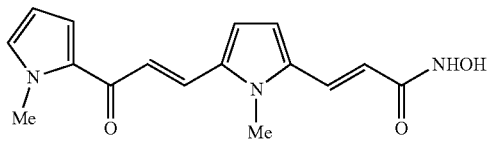


MJK006

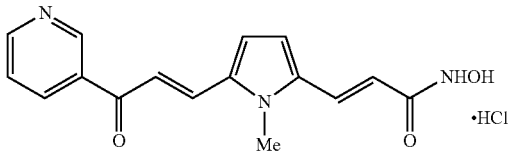


-continued

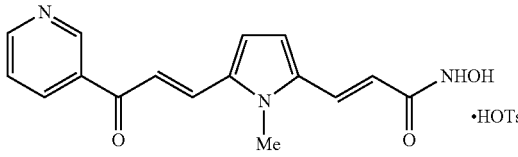
MJK007



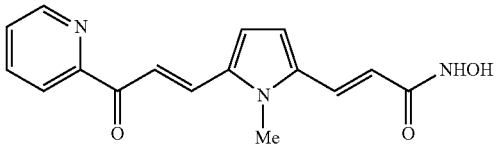
MJK008



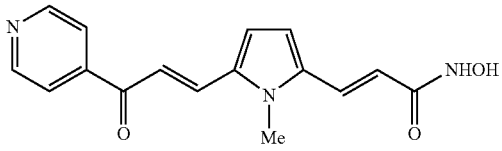
MJK009



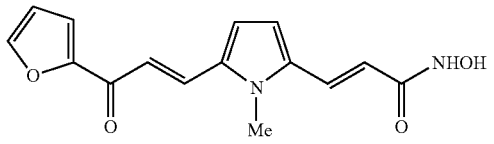
MJK010



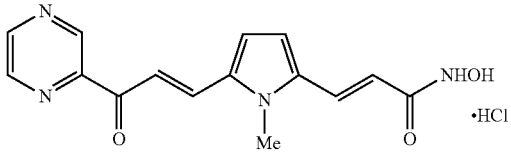
MJK011



MJK012



MJK013



[0026] The compounds of the present disclosure have increased specificity for the HDAC9 or HDAC4 isoforms. MJK008 and MJK006 are effective in blocking inflammation in vitro and in vivo through regulation of HDAC9. MJK004 is highly efficient in blocking bladder cancer cell growth through regulation of HDAC4. MJK006 and MJK008, based on in vitro and in vivo studies for specificity against HDAC9, can be used as therapeutics for Crohn's Disease and other auto-immune diseases. MJK004 can be used as a therapeutic against bladder cancer in combination with chemotherapy.

[0027] In certain aspects, the present disclosure provides a method of inhibiting an HDAC enzyme, such as an HDAC